

Message Text

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PAGE 01 KUWAIT 04464 260647Z

15

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11

EA-11 EUR-25 FRB-02 INR-10 IO-14 NSAE-00 RSC-01

OPIC-12 SPC-03 TRSE-00 CIEP-02 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01

INT-08 SCI-06 SCEM-02 AF-10 SAB-01 INRE-00 DODE-00

NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 CCO-00 PM-07 H-03 L-03 NSC-10

PA-04 PRS-01 SS-20 DRC-01 /210 W

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FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8380

UNCLAS KUWAIT 4464

DEPT PASS OPEC AND OECD CAPITALS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG XF XX

SUBJ: ARABS TO RAISE OIL PRODUCTION

SUMMARY: OAPEC OIL MINISTERS MEETING HERE DEC 24-25 DECIDED
RAISE OIL PRODUCTION TO LEVEL 15 PERCENT BELOW SEPTEMBER LEVELS.
THEY ALSO ADDED JAPAN AND BELGIUM TO FRIENDLY COUNTRIES LIST BUT
THEY MADE NO CHANGES WITH RESPECT TO US, HOLLAND EMBARGO. OAPEC
MINISTERS CITED CHANGES OUTSIDE ARAB WORLD FAVORABLE TO ARAB
CAUSE AND DESIRE NOT RPT NOT TO CAUSE ECONOMIC CATASTROPHE AS
REASONS FOR LETTING UP ON USE OF OIL WEAPON. APPARENTLY MINISTERS
DECIDED SECOND TOUR BY THEIR REPRESENTATIVES, PRESUMABLY YAMANI
AND BELAID, SHOULD BE MADE TO WESTERN CAPITALS AFTER WHICH THEY
WILL MEET AGAIN TO REVIEW SITUATION. END SUMMARY

1. OAPEC OIL MINISTERS, EXCEPT FOR IRAQI WHO WAS EXCLUDED FROM
MEETINGS BUT WHO WAS PRESENT IN KUWAIT, CONVENED HERE DEC 24-25
TO HEAR REPORT BY YAMANI AND BELAID OF THEIR RECENT TOUR OF
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PAGE 02 KUWAIT 04464 260647Z

EUROPE AND US AND TO REVIEW USE OF OIL AS WEAPON. CITING CERTAIN

FAVORABLE DEVELOPMENTS AND DESIRE NOT RPT NOT TO CAUSE ECONOMIC CATASTROPHE, OAPEC MINISTERS TOOK NUMBER OF STEPS, MOST IMPORTANT OF WHICH WAS TO INCREASE PRODUCTION TO 15 PERCENT BELOW SEPTEMBER LEVEL AND TO FOREGO PLANNED 5 PERCENT CUT FOR JANUARY. OAPEC GROUP HAD PREVIOUSLY REDUCED PRODUCTION BY 25 PERCENT IN OCTOBER AND ADDITIONAL 5 PERCENT MONTHLY CUTS HAD BEEN PROMISED.

2. IN ADDITION EXPORT RESTRICTIONS WERE EASED, ALTHOUGH THE EMBARGO ON OIL EXPORTS TO THE US AND HOLLAND WILL REMAIN IN EFFECT.

JAPAN AND BELGIUM HAVE BEEN ADDED TO THE LIST OF FRIENDLY COUNTRIES, AND OIL DESTINED FOR BELGIUM WILL BE ALLOWED TO TRANSIT HOLLAND, PROVIDED FIRM ASSURANCES CAN BE GIVEN THAT NONE WILL BE USED IN HOLLAND OR DIVERTED TO OTHER STATES. THE ARAB OIL MINISTERS ALSO SAID THAT EXPORTS TO AT LEAST CERTAIN FRIENDLY COUNTRIES COULD BE BASED ON ACTUAL NEED EVEN IF THIS WOULD BE HIGHER THAN SEPTEMBER LEVELS.

3. THE NEXT OIL MINISTERS MEETING HAS NOT BEEN PRECISELY SCHEDULED BUT IT IS EXPECTED TO TAKE PLACE IN FEBRUARY FOLLOWING A SECOND TOUR OF WESTERN CAPITALS, MOST PROBABLY BY YAMANI AND BELAID. IT IS SCHEDULED TO TAKE PLACE IN TRIPOLI. SHOULD DEVELOPMENTS REQUIRE, MINISTERS WILL MEET PRIOR TO THE TRIPOLI MEETING.

4. WE SHALL TRANSMIT FULL TEXT OF OAPEC STATEMENT AS SOON AS IT IS AVAILABLE. POST COMMENTS BY SEPTEL.

STOLTZFUS

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED ABOVE ADDRESSEES.

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